



# Edmund Rice Centre Mirrabooka Inc

Volume 1, Issue 7  
Nov/Dec 2008

Welcome to the Seventh Edition of the  
Edmund Rice Centre Mirrabooka Newsletter

## Special Points of Interest

- ⇒ Multicultural  
Community  
Service  
Award
- ⇒ Harmony  
Family  
Weekend
- ⇒ Thanks to  
Staff and  
Volunteers
- ⇒ Christmas  
Greetings

## Congratulations!

to our intrepid leader, Steve,  
and to all the staff, volunteers and participants of the  
Edmund Rice Centre Mirrabooka,  
on being presented with a  
Western Australian Multicultural Community Service Award for 2008  
in the Government House Ballroom on Friday 21 November.  
The Multicultural Community Service Awards  
recognise individuals and organisations  
who achieve excellence and innovation  
in advancing multiculturalism, inclusiveness and participation.  
In his 'thank you' speech, Steve did us proud!



**Multicultural Community Service Award**  
**'Thank You' delivered by Stephen Bowman, Director**

*"This was one of the tasks set forth at the beginning, - to hold common hopes that we may not look the same, may not come from the same place, but we all want to move forward in the same direction"*

Barack Obama

I would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of this land on which we gather this evening,- the Nyoongar Elders.  
The Hon John Castrilli MLA, Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Interests,  
Ms Sue Barrera - Director General,  
Department for Communities,  
Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen.  
Thank you Minister for this wonderful acknowledgement of the service of the

Edmund Rice Centre Mirrabooka.  
This year is the tenth anniversary of our opening, and receiving this award at this time will certainly make this milestone in the history and development of the Centre a memorable one.  
Over the past ten years many thousands of recently-arrived humanitarian entrants, those seeking asylum as well as our local Indigenous people, together with staff and

volunteers including college, university and past students have come to the Centre and continue to be part of the Edmund Rice Centre Mirrabooka Community. This Multicultural Community Service Award, to my mind, acknowledges the individual contribution each person has made to this "Community", where people can be made to feel welcome and participate in or teach, not only English, Computer Studies, youth programs and other life skills, but also to appreciate the richness and benefits of living in a multicultural society.

I take this opportunity of thanking the Christian Brothers, a number of Government Departments particularly the Office of Multicultural Interests and Non-Government Organisations, as well as many private individuals, for their ongoing support and advice. Receiving this award will serve to inspire and renew our passion for justice for those who unfortunately continue to experience disadvantage in our world community.

Thank You.



Jackie

**"In Jamaica, when you dance,  
you move  
EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT!"**



**Harmony Weekend Group**



Multi-Faith Service

## **Harmony Weekend Camp at Camp Kelly, Dwellingup — 17-19 October 2008**

On the afternoon of Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2008, 52 adults and 47 young people travelled to Camp Kelly which is set in a peaceful and relaxed area of the State Forest. After arriving, settling into accommodation and an evening Aussie barbecue, everyone began to meet one another in an opening "Welcoming Ritual" organised by Richard Mavros (Edmund Rice Formation Team). As part of this ritual, every participant wrote their name and country of origin on a piece of card and placed it on a large world map. The countries represented were: Australia, Burma, Russia, Sudan, Eritrea, Jamaica, Congo, Afghanistan, Togo, Rwanda, India, Uganda, Singapore, Macedonia, Iran, and the United Kingdom. On Saturday morning we all had the opportunity to learn about the Indigenous history and spirituality of the area, to learn some Nyoongar language, to listen to the didgeridoo and songs, to witness an "emu dance" and finally to participate in a bush walk through the forest and sample the local bush foods. George Walley and his cousin Frank were excellent presenters and both concluded their time with us by sharing their own personal story.

After morning tea, we shared our own personal story in small groups with others whom we had not met before. Following an introduction about the diversity of Religions in Western Australia there were short presentations on the Baha'i Faith, Islam, Christianity, and Buddhism. This session concluded with discussion, sharing and recording the similarities that exist between the various faiths. These similarities were to be recalled later in the camp in our Multi faith Service. Saturday concluded with a multicultural feast with a large variety of dishes from around the world, a campfire and some very lively multicultural dancing and music led by Jackie (originally from Jamaica). On Sunday morning we celebrated a multi-faith service which brought together the Indigenous story and our own personal faith stories and reflections over the weekend.

The Harmony Weekend proved again to be very successful with new friends made, a greater appreciation for the richness of our diverse community in Western Australia and the beauty of the natural environment.

Thank you to the WA Government Office of Multicultural Interests for their assistance in making the camps possible, and to the members of the committee for their commitment and hard work.

*Stephen Bowman - Coordinator*



## Congratulations & Thanks to our Program Coordinators, Staff & Volunteers



### ADMINISTRATION

Director  
Assistant to the Director  
Bookkeeper  
Administration Assistant  
Receptionists  
Volunteers

Stephen Bowman  
Christina Ward  
Alison Hayden  
Karen Wilson  
Mary Britton, Iva Martinovic, Jenny Wakelam  
Betty O'Neill, Sr Anita Willmott

### CBERS REDRESS WA

Program Coordinators

Phillipa White, Gail Green

### COMPUTER STUDIES

Program Coordinator  
Staff  
Volunteers

Eion Quigley  
Adele Dickson, Tia Hattar, Nelia ELber  
Lee Beck, Maureen Marrows,  
Herbert Green

### DRIVER EDUCATION

Program Coordinator  
Drive Safe Teacher  
Instructors

Christina Ward  
Angela Broderick  
Defensive Driving School

### ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Program Coordinator  
Volunteer Teachers

Angela Broderick  
Br Jim van der Zalm, Br Phil Q'Loghlen,  
Freda Rogan, Kathy Short, Eustace Boudville,  
Marie Stoakes, Matthew Lobo,  
Paula Day, Vicki Ogg,  
Dorothy Horton, Gerry Taylor,  
Sr Joan Paul, Sr Anita Willmott

### INDIGENOUS CHILDREN'S (Moorditj Koolangka)

Program Coordinator  
Staff

Br Phil O'Loghlen  
Jessica Pintabona, Pashtana Yad,  
Joanne Henderson

Volunteers

Br Pat Grant, John Harris, Sarah Eltayeb,  
Mercy College Students

### INTEGRATED SERVICE CENTRE KOONDOOLA

Multicultural Liaison Officer

Mandy Whitton

### LIFESKILLS FOR LIVING IN AUSTRALIA

Program Coordinator  
Staff  
Volunteers

Ros Trestrail  
Peta Bennetts, Samia Mustafa, Lindy McQueen  
Sally Wong, Mahnaz Ahmadzaeh Arabi

### MULTICULTURAL SPORTS & RECREATION

Program Coordinator  
Staff

Joe Moniodis  
Br Jim van der Zalm, Jessie Moniodis,  
Pashtana Yad, Sarah Rose, Brooke Russell

### REFUGEE YOUTH LEISURE

Program Coordinator  
Staff  
Volunteer

Br Jim van der Zalm  
Jessica Bouquet, Kamil Ismael  
Br Phil O'Loghlen

### SETTLEMENT GRANTS

Community Settlement Workers

Dolly Holzinger, Marika Krsevaska

### WOMEN TOGETHER

Program Coordinator  
Staff  
Volunteers

Sally Herzfeld  
Elda D' Annunzio, Farangeez Ahmadi  
Elfrida Rossi, Sr Ann McGlenn, Siobhan  
Wright,  
Samira Abdulahad

### YOUTH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Program Coordinator  
Staff  
Work Placement  
Volunteer Leaders

Joe Moniodis  
Jess Bouquet, Kamil Ismael  
Joyce Laboke  
Atot Amoly, Lwal Amoly, Ezra Godfrey,  
Achol Madong, Peter Mayuen,  
Lusia Santinow, Pashtana Yad, Sarah Eltayeb

### STUDENTS-ON-PLACEMENT/WORK EXPERIENCE/

### COMMUNITY SERVICE

Program Coordinators  
Educational Institutions

Christina Ward, Betty O'Neill  
Chisholm, Mercy, Mater Dei, Servite, Trinity  
Colleges, Mt Lawley TAFE, West Coast  
TAFE, ECU, Curtin, Murdoch Universities

**Edmund Rice Centre  
Mirrabooka Inc**

**An Initiative of the  
Christian Brothers**



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**We are on the Web!**

[www.edmundricecentremirrabooka.com](http://www.edmundricecentremirrabooka.com)

**The Staff of the  
Edmund Rice Centre Mirrabooka send  
very special  
Christmas Greetings to all.  
We wish you  
Joy in every heart  
Love in every home, and  
Peace in every land.**



**Thank You to Our Ongoing Sponsors**



**"A child is born  
to us!  
A son is given to us!  
And he will be our  
ruler.  
He will be called,  
'Wonderful  
Counsellor',  
'Mighty God',  
'Eternal Father',  
'Prince of Peace'.  
Isaiah 9.6**

**Forthcoming Events of Interest**

- ⇒ Classes in English finish on Friday 5 December 2008.
- ⇒ Classes in Computing finish on Friday 12 December 2008.
- ⇒ The Edmund Rice Centre Mirrabooka front office closes on Tuesday 23 December 2008.
- ⇒ The Centre front office re-opens on Monday 5 January 2009.
- ⇒ Enrolments and re-enrolments will take place from 5 January 2009 onwards..
- ⇒ Classes recommence on Monday 2 February 2009.

**If you would like to support the Edmund Rice Centre Mirrabooka Inc, your donation will be most gratefully accepted. Your donation will enable people from Refugee and Indigenous backgrounds, including youth, to continue to gain benefits from our educational programs.**

I enclose a donation to assist the work of the Edmund Rice Centre Mirrabooka Inc:

- \$20       \$50       \$100       \$500       Other

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. Donations can be made by cheque or by direct deposit.

Please make cheques payable to "Edmund Rice Centre Mirrabooka Inc" or deposit directly into

"Edmund Rice Centre Mirrabooka Inc", Account BSB 066 183, Account No: 1009 1408.

Reference: *Your Surname & Don e.g. Smith Don*

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